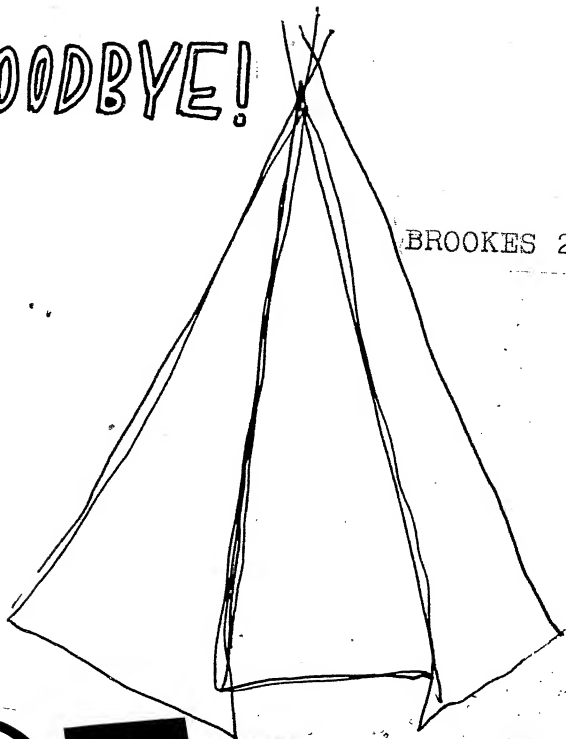


HELLO!

#1

GOODBYE!



BROOKES 2012

OCUPY!

Hello! Goodbye!

occupy!

It's been 31 days and the Brookes Occupation has run its course. We have weathered the storms both figurative and literal but we ~~F-?~~ING DID IT! We are proud of what we have achieved and have no regrets. Thanks to everyone who has given their support, this zine is for you.

Why We were here

We were here to make a stand against the marketization of education. More than student numbers, more than pound signs, we stood against the government's education reforms which favour the rich and guarantee a lifetime of debt. We were here to raise awareness amongst the wider student population who have been deliberately kept in the dark about unfair changes to financial support, especially regarding fee waivers. We were here to put pressure on our university and Vice Chancellor to commit to the most meritocratic allocation of student finance possible, to take a principled stance against the government's decisions and resist any further encroachment upon higher education.

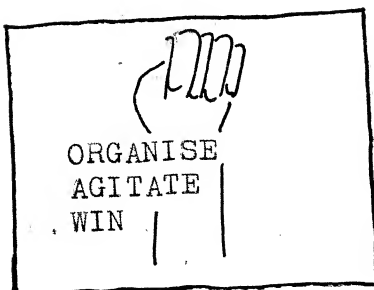
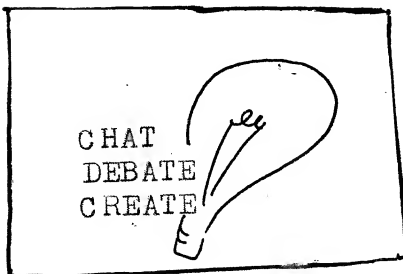
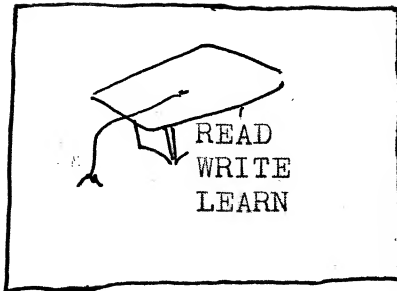
Who are 'We'? 'We' refers not just to those who occupied full time. The Occupier is anyone unhappy with the trend of neo-liberalization that we are seeing in our education system. The Occupier is the parent worried about their child's future, the lecturer frustrated with the demands placed upon them by uncaring university institutions and of course, the unhappy student.

31

DAYS OF

○ C CUPY!

BROOKES.



DOWN WITH
ALIENATION,
UP WITH
OCCUPATION

What we achieved

Our demands were not met, no concessions were made. The debate has been reopened, brought back into everyday conversation and covered in the local press and radio. Tensions have been brought to the surface amongst students and staff which can no longer be denied or ignored.

We have camped out on the grass as students, not consumers. We have learnt so much about activism in both theory and practice. We have reclaimed the university as a place which belongs to students, reasserting the university as a true 'space to think'. Politics and philosophy have been debated, creativity has flourished and new friends have been made.

What now?

We have shown what is possible at Brookes. Illusive as the university's engagement with students may be, this protest has gone unhindered by them. - Go Brookes! We have shown that Brookes students are not apathetic and have learnt so much from the experience and from each other. Don't let anyone tell you what a Brookes student is like.

But it's not really over. The tents may be gone, but it was never about the tents. Your convictions remain your imagination is the limit.

We can do bigger!

We can do better!

We can occupy a building with electricity, running water and central heating!

There is a time for questioning the rules of the game and a time for playing within it. Meeting with management can be constructive; then again, sometimes it can feel like banging your head against a wall.

The founder of this university, John Henry Brookes is often quoted as saying "A goal of all formal education should be to graduate students to lead lives of consequence" but what does this even mean?

Well, maybe it means not keeping your head down and being brushed aside. Maybe it means taking charge of your life and being the change you want to see.

What next for the movement? Well that's up to you. Don't wait for someone else to do it for you because you will wait an eternity.

Talk, network, form a society, make a band, start a group, write an article, join a political party, organise an event... OCCUPY.

Love,

'The Occupy Brookes Team'

XO

Facebook: "Occupy Brookes"

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[www.timeshighereducation.co.uk/
story.asp?storycode=418134](http://www.timeshighereducation.co.uk/story.asp?storycode=418134)

occupygraduation.net